       hello, I am emailing in concern of the whole Microsoft antitrust case. I have long been a supporter of Microsoft, and thought it better than Linux and/or Unix, as it was the most compatible. although, while examining the facts, in a broad sense, Microsoft is seeing that it's customers are starting to take a new and different view to it's large corporation, and it's not entirely better. in the wake of the fact that Microsoft could be split up, or hit with other serious consequences, it set out to tighten it's grip on it's users (just my opinion, but what do I know? I'm just going off of what I see). this grip has been tightened in ways you might not realize, it is getting the world so hopelessly dependent on windows, that to shut down the company would cause severe economic consequences. Stocks, businesses, and the government would be hit by such a serious action, that, it just might affect our nation's stability. Microsoft is still exercising it's monopolistic powers in some cases, such as that of the case between Microsoft and Sun, where Microsoft thought it would be better to discontinue shipping the real version of java, and put in their own little java version. sun developed java, it's not like Linux which has many different competing developers, java is sun's creation, yet Microsoft is creating their own version? this is pushing sun (a major competitor with Microsoft)...off the table... as explained in many online articles. I now believe Microsoft is phasing the rest of the world out, and creating situations where consumers NEED Microsoft's products for things to work, such as their web page, MSN.com; they have locked any browser except IE to be able to view it. coincidence? XP is shipping with software packages that make up some companies' only product(s), they are decreasing the need on 3rd party software, in essence creating the 'Microsoft gathering' to increase the dependence on the windows operating system. if more people depend on this operating system, the less likely it is to be affected by any, shall we say, government legislation. like the new ruling does not affect Microsoft's profits within the range of 10 cents! because everything is being made for windows, it IS the most compatible, but MS has been making that more and more untrue with every version of windows that they release that doesn't support one more app. I would say 50% is selectively and intentionally not supported, as you see in sun's case and Netscape's case.

       now to the privacy issue. an operating system that ships with desktop security measures defeats the purpose of being an operating system. a company that tries to 'secure' its products from its customers will lose business. I'm not talking about pirating windows itself, so much as, copying cd's, gathering useless user information and other things of the sort. what good is a product if you can't use it for the original reason you bought the software? Microsoft is also definitely setting up a HUGE database of users, and no doubt will soon be doing business with doubleclick.net, selling anonymous user profiles for money, and yes, Microsoft would have all of this because everyone will have to have

registered. And the dependence on the software will be so high, they will always have a product to sell. Personally addressed advertising will be extended to desktops, without user's notice or permission, as the government passed that INCREDIBLY STUPID FUCKING LAW.....allowing companies to share customer information freely without their permission, and the only way to get them to stop doing that was to specifically say 'don't send it'. I guess the don't send option is what made it pass, as that law totally and completely is unconstitutional and set against the founding principles for freedom, privacy and individuality that our society is so closely based upon. personally, I think it was written by people who don't really think that the internet is a big problem, nor a security issue, but that law extends WAY beyond the internet.

so does anyone see it yet? Microsoft is increasing our 'need' of windows, and the government is punishing them, which is really kicking all of the consumers in the ass. people need to pick, it is obviously not in the interests of the public to have to share information about them that is not necessary for normal business operation. so do you root for the government and all the other computer manufacturers and software programmers that Microsoft is very apparently belittling, but hiding behind the excuse that, MS makes it's own software, and therefore has a right to distribute whatever it likes with windows? Well Microsoft has transformed, once you have no healthy competition, and you have lots of business, you become a SERVICE not a business. some people are also praising Microsoft. For what exactly? Putting out 4 different versions of their operating system per year, and only changing minor things? this recent change is welcome, yet they focus on an aspect of the operating system that is not critical to the goal of the product. which is multimedia, woo hoo(yea right). If I want a rich multimedia experience, it's NOT going to be coming from Microsoft that's for sure! so Microsoft is slowly phasing other software out by trying to cover all it's bases: gaming (x box, and computer games), firewalls, imaging software, java, Linux, (and not to mention the 50 gazillion software titles it is not compatible with), and most definitely the ultimate TV system. by including these products, users feel no need to go out and buy software, or certain hardware for that matter, causing a downturn in the economy. Nobody would be buying anything, because they already have it. maybe one day Microsoft would make their own computers, fully equipped and compatible with nothing but Microsoft's products of course!

what if the government were to shut down Microsoft? Microsoft would undergo heavy lawsuits because users that purchased windows xp, cant register their product, and therefore wont work. so the government would have to keep some aspect of Microsoft alive, insuring that the economy doesn't undergo drastic swings because current technology doesn't work right. MS certainly has made their place in the world with windows XP, NOW THEY CAN'T BE SHUT DOWN. thank you for reading my email and letting me get my point out there.

thanks,

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P.S. - while revising this email, windows 2000 crashed with a very ugly blue screen, which froze again in the process dumping the memory, and never automatically rebooted the computer. another coincidence?